Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (cancelled).

2 (currently amended). The method as claimed in claim ~~1~~ 53 wherein the meta data includes scene, camera or demographic data related to ~~the~~ image capture of the captured image.

3 (currently amended). The method as claimed in claim ~~1~~ 53 wherein said ~~predicting~~ computing predictions includes predicting the severity of respective said image defects and the method further comprises altering the strength of the corresponding correction ~~process~~ processes in response to the respective degree of severity.

4 (currently amended). The method as claimed as in claim ~~1~~ 2 wherein the meta data related to image capture is collected at the time of image capture.

5 (currently amended). The method as claimed as in claim ~~1~~ 2 wherein the meta data related to image capture is collected at a time other than the time of image capture.

6 (currently amended). The method as claimed in claim ~~1~~ 53 wherein ~~the image defect~~ one of the defects is a noise defect and the meta data is selected from the group consisting of a lens exposure constant, standard (printing) reproduction magnification, non-standard (enlargement) magnification, diagonal dimension of a final display, ambient light level of the primary subject, exposure time, camera lens f-number, and main flash guide number.

7 (currently amended). The method as claimed in claim ~~1~~ 53 wherein ~~the image defect~~ one of the defects is a red-eye defect due to flash illumination of a subject and the meta data is selected from the group consisting of a use (on-off) of the flash illumination, illumination level of the primary subject, subject distance, flash-to-camera lens separation, focal length of camera lens, current reproduction (printing) magnification, diagonal dimension of final display, and preflash guide number.

8 (currently amended). The method as claimed in claim ~~1~~ 53 wherein ~~the image defect~~ one of the defects is a tone scale defect and the meta data is selected from the group consisting of respective illumination levels of the subject and background, subject distance, background distance, exposure time, camera lens f-number, use (on/off) of flash illumination, guide number of a main flash, lens exposure constant and ISO speed of a capture device.

9 (currently amended). The method as claimed in claim ~~1~~ 53 wherein ~~the image defect~~ one of the defects is a sharpness defect and the meta data is selected from the group consisting an exposure time, standard reproduction (printing) magnification, non-standard (enlargement) magnification, current reproduction (printing) magnification, camera lens focus range, camera lens focal length, camera shake factor and linear smear.

10 (currently amended). The method as claimed in claim ~~1~~ 53 wherein said applying step provides a viewed image and said method further ~~comprising~~ comprises the step of collecting meta data related to display parameters of the viewed image ~~generated from each image that is captured~~, wherein said meta data is capable of indicating whether the specific types of image defects are likely to be present in the viewed image.

11 (currently amended). A computer storage medium having instructions stored therein for causing a computer to perform the method of claim ~~1~~ 53.

12-13 (cancelled).

14 (currently amended). The method as claimed in claim ~~1~~ 2 wherein the image capture is an electronic capture on a digital capture device and the capture variables includes at least one variable selected from the group consisting of an ISO equivalent rating of an image sensor used by the capture device, exposure time of an optical system used in the capture device, a f-number of the optical system, a distance of a subject from the capture device, a distance of a background from the capture device, an illumination level on the subject, an illumination level on the background, a distance between a flash illuminator and the optical system, an indication of whether the flash illuminator was used, a guide number for the flash illuminator, an indication of camera shake, an indication that a backlight indicator was turned on, a gain factor for the image sensor and a resolution setting of the capture device.

15 (original). The method as claimed in claim 14 wherein the electronic capture is obtained with a digital camera.

16 (original). The method as claimed in claim 14 wherein the electronic capture is obtained with a digital scanner.

17-28 (cancelled).

29 (previously presented). The method as claimed in claim 50 wherein the demographic characteristic of the image includes the age or race of the human subject.

30 (cancelled).

31 (currently amended). The system as claimed in claim ~~36~~ 55 wherein the meta data includes scene, camera or demographic data related to ~~the~~ image capture of the captured image.

32 (currently amended). The system as claimed in claim ~~36~~ 55 wherein said means for ~~predicting~~ computing predictions also predicts the severity of the defects based at least in part on the meta data and said means for applying the

selected correction process alters the strength of the corresponding correction processes in response to the degree of severity.

33 (currently amended). The system as claimed as in claim ~~36~~ 55 wherein said means for ~~recording~~ collecting meta data is part of ~~said~~ an image capture device and at least some of the meta data is related to image capture and is collected at the time of image capture of the captured image.

34 (currently amended). The system as claimed as in claim ~~36~~ 55 wherein said means for ~~recording~~ collecting meta data is separated from ~~said~~ an image capture device used to capture said captured image.

35 (currently amended). The system as claimed in claim ~~36~~ 55 wherein said means for applying provides a viewed image and at least some of said meta data is related to display parameters of the viewed image and indicates whether the specific types of image defects are likely to be present in the viewed image.

36-39 (cancelled).

40 (currently amended). The method of claim ~~39~~ 42 wherein said plurality of defects includes each of: a noise defect, a redeye defect, a tone scale defect, and a sharpness defect.

41 (currently amended). The method of claim ~~39~~ 42 wherein said predictions predict both presence and severity.

42 (currently amended). ~~The method of claim 39~~ A method for processing a captured image, said method comprising the steps of:

collecting meta data related to the captured image;

computing predictions of a plurality of different perceived quality reducing defects in the captured image using said meta data, said plurality of defects being exclusive of scene balance;

adjusting scene balance of the captured image independent of said predictions; and

applying one or more of a plurality of different correction processes on the captured image responsive to said predictions;

further comprising calculating intermediate parameter values using said meta data and wherein said computing further comprises determining at least one of said predictions using both said meta data and said intermediate parameter values.

43 (previously presented). The method of claim 42 wherein said intermediate parameter values quantify one or more of: degree of exposure of subject, degree of exposure of background, angular magnification of the subject, final image viewing distance, maximum handheld shutter time, and display size factor.

44 (currently amended). A computer storage medium having instructions stored therein for causing a computer to perform the method of claim ~~39~~ 42.

45 (cancelled).

46 (currently amended). The system of claim ~~45~~ 48 wherein said plurality of defects includes each of: a noise defect, a redeye defect, a tone scale defect, and a sharpness defect.

47 (currently amended). The system of claim ~~45~~ 48 wherein said predictions predict both presence and severity.

48 (currently amended). ~~The system of claim 45~~ A system for processing a captured image, said system comprising:

means for collecting meta data related to the captured image;

means for computing predictions of a plurality of different perceived quality reducing defects in the captured image using said meta data, said plurality of defects being exclusive of scene balance;

means for adjusting scene balance of the captured image independent of said predictions; and

means for applying one or more of a plurality of different correction processes on the captured image responsive to said predictions;

further comprising means for calculating intermediate parameter values using said meta data and wherein said means for computing further comprises means for determining at least one of said predictions using both said meta data and said intermediate parameter values.

49 (previously presented). The system of claim 48 wherein said intermediate parameter values quantify one or more of: degree of exposure of subject, degree of exposure of background, angular magnification of the subject, final image viewing distance, maximum handheld shutter time, and display size factor.

50 (currently amended). ~~A method for processing a captured image having a flash illuminated human subject, said method comprising the steps of:~~ The method of claim 42 wherein:

~~collecting meta data related to the captured image,~~ said meta data ~~identifying~~ identifies a demographic characteristic related to redeye;

~~computing~~ one of said predictions is a prediction of presence and severity of redeye defect in the captured image ~~using said meta data~~; and

said applying includes applying a redeye defect correction process on the captured image responsive to said prediction of redeye.

51 (previously presented). A computer storage medium having instructions stored therein for causing a computer to perform the method of claim 50.

52 (currently amended). ~~A system for processing a captured image having a flash illuminated human subject, said system comprising:~~ The method of claim 48 wherein:

~~means for collecting meta data related to the captured image,~~ said meta data ~~identifying~~ identifies a demographic characteristic related to redeye;

~~means for computing~~ one of said predictions is a prediction of presence and severity of redeye defect in the captured image ~~using said meta data~~; and

said means for applying includes means for applying a redeye defect correction process on the captured image responsive to said prediction of redeye.

53 (new). A method for processing a captured image, said method comprising the steps of:

collecting meta data related to the captured image;

calculating intermediate parameter values using said meta data;

computing predictions of a plurality of different perceived quality reducing defects in the captured image, at least one of said predictions using both said meta data and said intermediate parameter values, and said plurality of defects being exclusive of scene balance;

adjusting scene balance of the captured image independent of said predictions; and

applying one or more of a plurality of different correction processes on the captured image responsive to said predictions.

54 (new). The method of claim 53 wherein said intermediate parameter values quantify one or more of: degree of exposure of subject, normal exposure light level, degree of exposure of background, flash exposure ratio, ambient exposure ratio, angular magnification of the subject, final image viewing distance, maximum handheld shutter time, and display size factor.

55 (new). A system for processing a captured image, said system comprising:

means for collecting meta data related to the captured image;

means for calculating intermediate parameter values using said meta data;

means for computing predictions of a plurality of different perceived quality reducing defects in the captured image, at least one of said predictions using both said meta data and said intermediate parameter values, and said plurality of defects being exclusive of scene balance;

means for adjusting scene balance of the captured image independent of said predictions; and

means for applying one or more of a plurality of different correction processes on the captured image responsive to said predictions.

56 (new). The system of claim 55 wherein said intermediate parameter values quantify one or more of: degree of exposure of subject, normal exposure light level, degree of exposure of background, flash exposure ratio, ambient exposure ratio, angular magnification of the subject, final image viewing distance, maximum handheld shutter time, and display size factor.